

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK NIACT IMMEDIATE

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TODEP 155

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EIND, ETRD
SUBJECT: US FERROUS SCRAP EXPORTS

REF: BANGKOK 3590

1. DEPUTY SECRETARY RUSH MAY WISH TO USE FOLLOWING INFORMATION ON FERROUS SCRAP (PARA 9 REFTEL) DURING HIS MARCH 6 MEETING WITH THAI FOREIGN MINISTER.

2. FOLLOWING CAREFUL CONSIDERATION OF THAI REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL FERROUS SCRAP, USG IS MAKING A 20,000 SHORT TON (ST) ALLOCATION TO THAILAND FROM THE 100,000 ST FIRST QUARTER CONTINGENCY RESERVE. THIS ALLOCATION WILL BE IN ADDITION TO REGULAR THAI FIRST QUARTER QUOTA OF 14,800 ST, AND BRING OVERALL TONNAGE THAT CAN BE LICENSED DURING FIRST QUARTER FOR EXPORT TO THAILAND TO 34,800 ST. CONTINGENCY ALLOCATION WILL BE DISTRIBUTED AMONG US EXPORTERS HOLDING SHARES OF FIRST QUARTER 1974 REGULAR THAI QUOTA ON BASIS
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THEIR SHARES OF REGULAR QUOTA.

3. WHILE CONTINGENCY RESERVE ALLOCATION FALLS SHORT OF ADDITIONAL SCRAP TONNAGE REQUESTED BY THAIS, 20,000 ST ALLOCATION REPRESENTS THE MAXIMUM USG ABLE TO PROVIDE THAILAND WITHIN THE SEVERE CONSTRAINTS IMPOSED BY THE LIMITED OVERALL CONTINGENCY RESERVE AND THE LARGE NUMBER OF FOREIGN REQUESTS FOR ADDITIONAL SCRAP TONNAGE WHICH FAR EXCEED THE TOTAL CONTINGENCY RESERVE. MIGHT ALSO BE NOTED THAT 20,000 ST ALLOCATION FOR THAILAND IS THE LARGEST INDIVIDUAL COUNTRY CONTINGENCY RESERVE ALLOCATION MADE TO DATE. (OTHER FIRST QUARTER 1974 CONTINGENCY RESERVE ALLOCATIONS HAVE BEEN 6,170 ST TO BANGLADESH; 12,000 ST EACH TO PAKISTAN AND PHILIPPINES; AND 15,000 ST TO VENEZUELA.)

4. IT SHOULD ALSO BE MADE CLEAR TO THAIS THAT THIS CONTINGENCY RESERVE ALLOCATION IS FOR THE FIRST QUARTER ONLY, AND THAT THEY SHOULD NOT RPT NOT ASSUME THEY WILL RECEIVE ADDITIONAL ALLOCATION(S) IN SECOND OR SUBSEQUENT QUARTERS. KISSINGER

NOTE BY OC/T: DISTRIBUTION COORDINATED WITH SSO, MR. TWOHIE.

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